

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON  
AT SEATTLE

ESTHER HOFFMAN, et al.

## Plaintiffs,

V.

TRANSWORLD SYSTEMS  
INCORPORATED, et al.,

## Defendants.

C18-1132 TSZ

## MINUTE ORDER

The following Minute Order is made by direction of the Court, the Honorable Thomas S. Zilly, United States District Judge:

(1) Non-party fact witness Affiant X's motion, docket no. 203, to quash Plaintiffs' subpoena for oral deposition and for a protective order is GRANTED. The Court finds good cause to grant Affiant X's motion for a protective order and to quash Plaintiffs' subpoena for oral deposition. The declaration from Affiant X's treating neurologist, docket no. 206, establishes the specific harm that will result from an oral deposition in this case. Affiant X's treating neurologist believes to a reasonable degree of neurological certainty that participation in a stressful, adversarial deposition places Affiant X at risk of an adverse medical event such as a seizure, stroke, or severe anxiety. Lacey Decl. at ¶ 11 (docket no. 206). Affiant X's deposition shall be taken by written questions pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 31 no later than November 19, 2021. During the deposition, Affiant X must provide his own answers, without any oral or written prompts from his counsel or others. All relief not expressly granted herein is DENIED.

(2) The Clerk is directed to send a copy of this Minute Order to all counsel of record.

Dated this 14th day of October, 2021.

Ravi Subramanian

Clerk

s/Gail Glass

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## Deputy Clerk